

County of Los Angeles
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SOCIAL SERVICES

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February 15, 2007

To: Each Supervisor

From: Bryce Yokomizo, Director

SUBJECT: WAGE INCREASE FOR IN-HOME SUPPORTIVE SERVICES

On January 23, 2007, your Board approved funding to increase In-Home Supportive Services (IHSS) homecare worker wages from \$8.45 to \$9.00 per hour. At that time, there was some question as to whether the State would cover its statutory share of such a wage increase this fiscal year because the Governor's FY 07-08 Budget proposal limited State participation to the wage/benefit level in effect as of January 10, 2007. This is to let you know that the California Department of Social Services has now verbally announced to counties that it would approve their requests for wage increases this fiscal year even though the Administration is still proposing a wage freeze for next fiscal year.

In response to your Board's motion, we submitted our formal request to the State for approval of the wage increase to \$9.00 per hour. This wage increase will go into effect upon State approval.

In the event the Administration is successful next fiscal year in their proposal to freeze State participation in IHSS provider wages at the January 2007 level, we would have to go back to the current IHSS wage amount of \$8.45 per hour.

While we don't believe that such a freeze is likely, we want to ensure your Board is fully informed of the potential impact as we move forward. Upon State approval of our request, I will exercise delegated authority to amend the PASC Agreement to implement the proposed increase, stipulating that the \$9.00 wage rate is contingent upon the State's continued participation at its standard share of 65% of the nonfederal costs.

"To Enrich Lives Through Effective And Caring Service"

Each Supervisor
February 15, 2007
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We will continue to monitor this issue and provide updates on any new developments.

BY:vs

c: Executive Officer, Board of Supervisors
Chief Administrative Officer
County Counsel